

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 130

Introduced by Assembly Member De La Torre

February 18, 2010

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 130—Relative to the Arnold C. Garcia Memorial Highway.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 130, as introduced, De La Torre. Arnold C. Garcia Memorial Highway.

This measure would designate the portion of State Highway Route 5 between East Olympic Boulevard and South Atlantic Boulevard, in the City of Commerce, as the Arnold C. Garcia Memorial Highway. The measure would also request the Department of Transportation to determine the cost for appropriate signs showing this special designation and, upon receiving donations from nonstate sources covering that cost, to erect those signs.

Fiscal committee: yes.

- 1 WHEREAS, For nearly two decades, Arnold C. Garcia, a Los
2 Angeles County Probation Department group supervisor, worked
3 the graveyard shift at the Dorothy E. Kirby Center, supervising
4 locked cottages housing some of Los Angeles County's youngest
5 and most troubled offenders; and
6 WHEREAS, Like all Los Angeles County Probation Department
7 employees, Arnold C. Garcia was equipped with only two weapons:
8 muscle and guile; and

1 WHEREAS, Although department guidelines recommend one
2 guard for every 10 juveniles in custody, Arnold C. Garcia was
3 charged with watching over a 20-bed cottage; and

4 WHEREAS, During night shifts at the center, Arnold C. Garcia
5 frequently bent the rules, bringing candy and videos for the most
6 well-behaved wards. According to coworkers, he always had his
7 Bible in hand, passing the lonely hours by praying for the wards;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, On April 4, 1994, Arnold C. Garcia heard a knock
10 from inside one of the bedroom doors. The ward inside, who was
11 serving time for burglary and possession of a concealed weapon,
12 asked for permission to use the restroom. After opening the door,
13 Arnold C. Garcia was struck in the head with a metal object from
14 a disassembled desk in the room. The alleged assailant fled with
15 another ward, but was captured a short time later; and

16 WHEREAS, Arnold C. Garcia was the first Los Angeles County
17 Probation Department employee killed in the line of duty since
18 the department was formed in 1903; and

19 WHEREAS, The death of Arnold C. Garcia serves as a symbol
20 of the increasingly hazardous mission faced by employees at Los
21 Angeles County's three juvenile halls and 20 probation camps;
22 and

23 WHEREAS, Arnold C. Garcia is survived by his wife, Alma,
24 and 11 children. His family remembers him as a devoted husband
25 and father who dedicated himself to his wards as if they were his
26 own blood; and

27 WHEREAS, It is appropriate to recognize the dedication of,
28 and sacrifice made by, Arnold C. Garcia; now, therefore, be it

29 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
30 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature designates the portion of
31 State Highway Route 5 between East Olympic Boulevard and
32 South Atlantic Boulevard, in the City of Commerce, as the Arnold
33 C. Garcia Memorial Highway; and be it further

34 *Resolved*, That the Department of Transportation is requested
35 to determine the cost of appropriate signs, consistent with the
36 signing requirements for the state highway system, showing this
37 special designation and, upon receiving donations from nonstate
38 sources sufficient to cover that cost, to erect those signs; and be it
39 further

1 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
2 of this resolution to the Department of Transportation and to the
3 author for appropriate distribution.

O